

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims to eliminate improper multiple dependent claims and to improve usage without narrowing claim scope. Applicant has also eliminated means-plus-function terminology in order to avoid the strictures on claim scope imposed by 35 USC 112, sixth paragraph. No new matter has been added, nor has the claim scope been narrowed by these amendments.

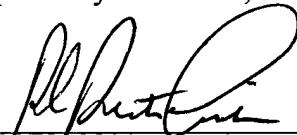
Early action allowing claims 1, 2 and 4-16 is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **524642002200**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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